



January 2004 *Citizen Corps Score*

Phone (317) 233-4273

Fax (317) 233-5660

A Monthly Publication for Indiana
Citizen Corps Councils, their
Partners and Affiliates

National Update

Per appropriation language, the next step for states to secure FY '04 funds is to submit their State Homeland Security Strategy. This date has been moved back to mid or late January 2004 causing availability of funds to be pushed to at least April. Also new this year is that any funds from the Homeland Security Grants and Urban Areas Security Initiative are allowed to be used for Citizen Corps related activities. The full report can be viewed at http://www.citizencorps.gov/doc/update2003_12_23.doc

Neighborhood Watch (NW)

USA On Watch (UOW) was created by the National Sheriffs' Association, in conjunction with several well-known federal agencies, to advance this cause by encouraging the initiation and/or revitalization of Neighborhood Watch (NW) programs throughout the country. One of the oldest and best-known crime prevention concepts in history, Neighborhood Watch was created to unite law enforcement agencies, private organizations, and individual citizens in a massive effort to reduce residential crime. We encourage you to learn more about these programs and their history. Neighborhood Watch is one of the staple programs of Citizen Corps and is an excellent way to get everyday citizens involved with being aware and prepared. This program has proven to

be a good way into communities that may not have taken a genuine interest in Citizen Corps from the beginning.

Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)

Another federal program coordinated within Citizen Corps is Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS). Volunteers in Police Service is just that-citizens providing no-cost support to their state, county, or local police agencies. The national VIPS Program also provides support to police agencies interested in starting a volunteer program. Through this website, and additional services to be developed shortly, VIPS can help local agencies determine their volunteer needs, and to design a program that will effectively meet those needs. The national website is also an excellent source for sample forms and best practices of VIPS programs around the country, including programs in the state of Indiana.

Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency, using the model created by the Los Angeles City Fire Department, began promoting nationwide use of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) concept in 1994. CERT training promotes a partnering effort between emergency services and the people that they serve. The goal is for emergency personnel to train members of neighborhoods, community organizations, or workplaces in basic response skills. CERT members are then integrated into the emergency response capability for their area. Finally, CERT members can volunteer for projects that improve community emergency preparedness, which is the mission of Citizen Corps Councils!

Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)

The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is one way that health professionals can volunteer to strengthen their community. MRC units will be locally based health volunteers who can assist their own communities during large-scale emergencies, such as an influenza epidemic, a chemical spill, or an act of terrorism. MRC volunteers also can work together to improve the overall health and well being of their neighborhoods and communities through community education and outreach programs. The director of a local MRC should be an integral part of the local Citizen Corps Council. There is only one MRC program in Indiana, so all local councils are encouraged to solicit interest from local medical professionals to ensure all of Indiana's

communities will have adequately trained individuals for all disasters.

Indiana Child Care Health

The purpose of the Indiana Child Care Health Consultant Program (ICCHCP) is to increase the level of health and safety in out-of-home child care settings across Indiana through technical assistance and training for child care providers. The incidence of illness, accidents and deaths in child care settings across the state, combined with the limited technical assistance and training supports to reduce these public health issues are the driving force behind the initiation of this project. Patricia Cole is the director of the ICCHCP and can be contacted at 812-855-6508 or pacole@indiana.edu. She can help put your council in contact with one of the program's six regional child care health consultants. These consultants can assist your council in helping to increase the health and safety of Indiana's more than 500,000 youth that are cared for on a daily basis by someone other than their parents.

Publications/Resources

Kids' Letters to Terrorists by John Shuchart and Steve Searcy \$9.95 1-800-662-9662

Murder is No Accident by Deborah Prothrow-Stith and Howard Spivak
\$35.00 1-800-956-7739

Violence Prevention in Schools <http://www.violence-in-school.info/>

USA Freedom Corps Newsletter http://www.usafreedomcorps.gov/for_organizations/enewsletter/archive/index.asp

Upcoming Events

January is National Mentoring Month

January is National Blood Donor Month

January is National Eyecare Month

January 01 New Year's Day (ICCSV Office closed)

January 19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day On event (ICCSV Office closed)

January

Emergency Phone Numbers

Since accidents can happen in any part of the home, make copies of a

completed list of the following numbers and post one near every telephone in the house. In addition, make sure that adults who come to the house to watch your children (baby-sitters or relatives, for example) familiarize themselves with the list.

" 911 (or emergency number used in your area)

" Poison control center

" Hospital emergency room

" Fire Department

" Police Department

" Pediatrician

" Parent's work numbers

" Neighbor/Relative

Keep in Touch!

ICCSV Staff

Phone E-mail

Brandy Wood, Senior Program Officer (317) 233-0901 <mailto:bwood@dwd.state.in.us>

Bradley Woodlee, Citizen Corps Intern (317) 233-0902 bwoodlee@dwd.state.in.us